

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 06195 071706Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
ABF-01 IGA-02 SS-15 NSC-05 INRE-00 INR-07 /085 W
----- 029615

O R 071606Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2884

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS/ EAID, EAGR, NO

SUBJ: IFAD FUNDING-STATUS OF PLEDGES

REFS: (A) BONN 20459 (B) STOCKHOLM 6673 (C) STATE 292978 (D) BRUSSELS
11501 (E) OSLO 6015 (F) THE HAGUE 6501 (G) STATE 285366

1. AFTER ATTEMPTING TO PIECE TOGETHER INFO IN REFERENCED TELEGRAMS RE
EFFORTS TO ATTAIN BALANCE OF \$31 MILLION NEEDED TO REACH \$1 BILLION
IFAD TARGET, EMBASSY REMAINS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHERE MATTERS STAND.
NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ADMIT TO SIMILAR CONFUSION. IN
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PAGE 02 OSLO 06195 071706Z

CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL KARE KRYN OF INTER-

NATIONAL ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPT., EMBOFF VOLUNTEERED TO REQUEST FROM DEPARTMENT AND OTHER ACTION ADDRESSEES STATUS REPORT ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. GON ALSO CONCERNED THAT DECEMBER 9 DATE FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF ATTAINMENT OF \$1 BILLION IFAD TARGET CANNOT BE ADHERED TO FOR REASONS OUTLINED IN PARA 4. NEVERTHELESS, NORWEGIANS ARE PREPARED TO PLAY POSITIVE ROLE TO CLOSE FINAL FUNDING GAP.

2. RE GROUP I ADDITIONAL PLEDGES, LATEST INFO AVAILABLE TO NORWEGIANS INDICATES THAT PLEDGES HAD APPROACHED \$12 MILLION (OUT OF 15.5 NEEDED). IN THE FIRM PLEDGE CATEGORY, ACCORDING TO GON, IS \$3 MILLION FROM SWEDEN AND \$3 MILLION FROM DUTCH. NORWEGIANS ARE ALSO COUNTING ON \$3 MILLION EACH FROM CANADIANS AND GERMANS, BUT HAVE INFORMATION THAT PERHAPS THESE PLEDGES COULD NOT BE FIRMED UP BY TARGET DATE. EMBOFF SHARED WITH BRYN INFO IN REF A THAT NO MORE GERMAN MONEY WILL BE FORTHCOMING, BUT WAS UNABLE TO COMMENT ON CANADIAN PLEDGE. REF A REFERS TO A POSSIBLE SWISS PLEDGE; AND REF C TO A POSSIBLE BELGIAN PLEDGE--CAN ADDRESSEES SHED ANY FURTHER LIGHT ON THESE? GON KNEW NOTHING OF EITHER.) GROUP I TALLY IS IMPORTANT TO NORWEGIANS, AS THEY INTEND TO FACTOR IT IN WHEN CONSIDERING FINAL NORWEGIAN CONTRIBUTION TO CLOSE GAP.

3. REGARDING THE VENEZUELAN PLEDGE OF \$10 MILLION, IT IS NORWEGIAN UNDERSTANDING THAT VENEZUELAN INTEND TO SWITCH THIS AMOUNT TO IFAD FROM THEIR ORIGINAL UN SPECIAL FUND PLEDGE. NORWEGIANS ARE ONLY OTHER COUNTRY TO HAVE MADE SPECIAL FUND PLEDGE (ALSO APPROX. \$10 MILLION), AND THEY ARE NOW CONTEMPLATING SWITCHING THIS PLEDGE FROM SPECIAL FUND TO IFAD. NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON THIS TRANSFER, PARTLY, IN EMBASSY OPINION, DUE TO CONFUSION OVER WHO HAS PLEDGED WHAT DURING THIS FINAL EFFORT TO ATTAIN TARGET.

4. NORWEGIANS ARE CONCERNED THAT VENEZUELA'S "DECISION" TO SWITCH PLEDGE FROM SPECIAL FUND TO IFAD CANNOT MERELY BE UNILATERAL DECISION TO DO SO AND THEREFORE IT CANNOT BE TALLIED AS YET. BRYN HOLDS OPINION THAT VENEZUELAN NEED TO MAKE PROPOSAL TO BOARD OF SPECIAL FUND, WHICH MEETS IN NEW YORK ON 16 DEC., TO REQUEST TRANSFER OF THESE FUNDS TO IFAD CATEGORY. IF NORWEGIANS WERE TO DECIDE TO SWITCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OSLO 06195 071706Z

FUNDS TO IFAD, THEY TOO WOULD MAKE SUCH A PROPOSAL TO BOARD. APPROVAL BY THE BOARD IS NOT THE PROBLEM, ACCORDING TO BRYN, BUT TIMING AND THE MECHANICS OF THE PROCESS MEAN THAT THE DECEMBER 9 TARGET DATE CANNOT BE MET.

5. THE NORWEGIANS, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT, HAVE BEEN VERY FORTHCOMING RE PLEDGES TO IFAD. ORIGINALLY THEY PLEDGED 65 MILLION NKR

5.5NKR EQUAL \$1), AND IN AUGUST THEY PLEDGED AN ADDITIONAL 10 MILLION NKR. IN NOVEMBER, IN A COMMUNICATION TO THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SECRETARIAT THEY INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER AN ADDITIONAL SMALL PLEDGE IF THIS IS WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO CLOSE THE FINAL GAP. NOW THEY ARE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING MAKING THE SHIFT FROM THE UN SPECIAL FUND TO IFAD. GIVEN THE NEARNESS OF THE DECEMBER 9, TARGET, THE UN-CERTAINTY (AT LEAST HERE) AS TO WHO HAS PLEDGED WHAT, AND THE FORMAL PROCESS "REQUIRED" TO TRANSFER PLEDGES FROM THE SPECIAL FUND TO IFAD, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY TO BOTH EMBASSY AND FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT ANNOUNCEMENT CAN BE MADE BEFORE DECEMBER 16.

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE UP-TO-DATE REPORT ON PLEDGES, COMMENT RE RELATIONSHIP TO SPECIAL FUND, AND GUIDANCE TO USE IN EMBASSY FOLLOW-UP WITH NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY.
ANDERS

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